

# SCOTTISH WILD LAND GROUP

## Minutes of 2019 AGM held on Saturday 7 December 2019 at 2.00pm

**Venue:** Quakers' Meeting House, Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh

In the Chair: Beryl Leatherland, Convenor; Minutes: Tim Ambrose

**1. Welcome:** All those present were welcomed to the meeting by the Convenor

### **Attendees:**

**Members:** John Allan, Tim Ambrose, Fiona Anderson, Allan Bantick, Liz Bibby, Alistair Cant, Grant Cornwallis, John Digney, Jo Doake, James Fenton, Adam Forsyth, Beryl Leatherland, Jane Meek, SM McCourt, Helen McDade, Anne McIntyre, Scott Peddie, Robert Russel, Matthew Shaw, Bill Stephens Peter Willimott.

Guests of Members: Dave Morris, Gill Munro. **Speaker:** Norman McNab

**Apologies:** Peter Ewing, David Gibson, Tom Leatherland, Mel and Graham Nicoll, Andrew Painting

**2. Draft Minutes of 2018 AGM:** These were accepted as a true record of the meeting. Proposed by James Fenton and seconded by Peter Willimott.

**3. Matters arising from the 2018 Minutes:** Any matters arising were covered later in the meeting.

**4. Chairman's Report:** The Convenor's report was on the website. It summarises the principal activities during the year, and since the year end, and makes clear the difficulty of the tasks facing a small volunteer organisation in making an impact against the pressures on the environment.

The Convenor thanked all the members of the Steering Group for their work and support over the previous year.

Members were reminded that SWLG is constantly seeking new members of the Steering Group and anyone interested was encouraged to come along to a meeting to get to know the team better and hopefully then to consider joining us.

It is hoped that the SWLG will take steps towards becoming a SCIO before the next AGM.

**5. Treasurer's Report and Accounts:** Tim introduced the Accounts which had been distributed to all attendees. Despite income falling by around £1,250 to £4,234, the Group had still made a surplus of £1,597, because of the lower costs of producing and distributing only two issues of WLN. Reserves at 31 March 2019 were £16,080, which would allow a sizeable campaign or additional publications if required.

Adoption of the Accounts was proposed by Beryl Leatherland and seconded by Jane Meek and were unanimously approved by the members. Martin George (a Chartered Accountant, and Tim's nephew) was reappointed as the Independent Examiner.

### **6. Election of Officers and Committee**

All the existing Steering Group members had indicated that they were willing to continue and it was proposed and agreed unanimously that the Officers and committee should be re-appointed.

For 2019 to 2020 the Officers and committee would be:

Convenor: Beryl Leatherland, Treasurer: Tim Ambrose, Membership Secretary: Grant Cornwallis, Editor: James Fenton, Committee: Peter Ewing, Jane Meek, Andrew Painting and Peter Willimott.

**7. AOCB – discussion:** James Fenton directed attendees to pick their preference for photographs for a new membership leaflet.

A member enquired about the activities of the Landscape Alliance to date as he had found the website to be lacking in detail and information. The Convenor gave a brief update of the work of the Alliance and the problems it inevitably faced with limited funding but a lot of enthusiasm.

A guest urged that more letters be sent to the newspapers to get publicity for the cause. The Convenor pointed out that this took a lot of effort for very limited returns and that our capacity was probably best directed to where we were more certain of exerting some influence and achieving an outcome.

**8. Thanks and AGM close:** The Convenor thanked everyone again for their support and attendance. The AGM closed at 2.50 pm.